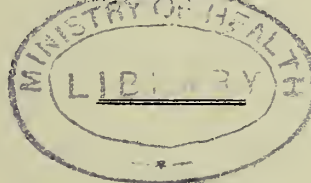


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BOROUGH OF ALDEBURGH

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health



FOR THE YEAR

1953

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The Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of
The Borough of Aldeburgh.

Mr. Mayor,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herewith my annual report for the year 1953 which has been prepared on much the same lines as those for previous years.

It will be observed that the statistics for the year show a satisfactory state of health in the town. It is also interesting to note that the population showed a small increase over the previous year.

I would like to thank Aldermen, Councillors and Officials for their co-operation during the year.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

C. H. IRIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

C. H. IMRIE, T.D.,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector.

P. V. DAVIES,
M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

GENERAL STATISTICS

Rateable Value - £25,492

Product of 1d Rate - £102

VITAL STATISTICS

Summary covering five years

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
Population	2,650	2,638	2,545	2,534	2,501
Birth Rate per 1000 population	24.15 (64)	15.9 (42)	15.7 (40)	11.4 (39)	12.3 (31)
Still Birth Rate per 1000 population	0.31 (1)	0.75 (2)	0.38 (1)	-	-
Death Rate per 1000 population	12.1 (32)	9.8. (26)	20.8 (53)	14.6 (37)	18.3 (46)
Infantile Death Rate per 1000 Births	31.2 (2)	-	50 (2)	-	32.2 (1)

Figures in brackets are the numbers of
relevant births or deaths.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. <u>BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	33	29	62
Illegitimate	-	2	2
2. <u>STILL BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
3. <u>ALL DEATHS</u>	15	17	32
4. <u>INFANTILE DEATHS</u>	-	2	2
5. <u>DEATHS ASSOCIATED</u> <u>WITH CHILDBIRTH</u>	-----NIL-----		

Deaths by Causes

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Tuberculosis - respiratory	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	-	1	-
Malignant neoplasm of lung	-	-	-	1
Other forms of malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	-	1	1	3
Leukaemia. Aleukamia	-	1	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	-	1	5
Coronary disease, angina	5	3	8	2
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1	1
Other heart diseases	2	4	6	3
Other circulatory diseases	-	1	1	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1	-
Bronchitis	1	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1	-
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1	-
Other diseases	1	3	4	5
Motor accidents	-	-	-	1
Other accidents	1	1	2	2
Suicide	-	2	2	-
TOTAL	15	17	32	26

Comment on the Statistics

Population

The estimate prepared by the Registrar General for 1953 shows a small increase over the previous year.

Births

It will be seen from the Statistical tables that there was a big increase in births during the year. The total of 64 births being the largest I can find recorded for Aldeburgh in a year. The Birth Rate stands at the extremely high figure of 24.15 per 1000 population (15.5 per 1000 in England and Wales).

Deaths

Although the total deaths were slightly higher than the previous year the Death Rate was only 12.1 which is quite satisfactory.

Only two deaths of children under 1 year were recorded.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Monthly Incidence

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	Jun.	Jly.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	11	122	46	1									180
Whooping Cough	1			1									2
Scarlet Fever			1					1		3	2		7
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1												1
Food Poisoning					5								5

Age Distribution

	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	Over 50	Total
Measles	8	24	30	111	5	1			1		180
Whooping Cough			1	1							2
Scarlet Fever		1		6							7
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1										1
Food Poisoning				1	2	1		1			5

During 1953 the incidence of infectious disease was much higher than during the previous years. This increase was due almost entirely to an outbreak of measles in the Winter and early Spring which swept through the child population, affecting mainly those under the age of 10. An outbreak of this type is not entirely unexpected when for a few years the incidence of measles has been low resulting in a large number of young children coming to school age without having had contact with the infection.

A small outbreak of a mild form of Food Poisoning occurred in May involving 5 cases. The probable origin of the infection was duck eggs but confirmation could not be obtained. All the patients recovered rapidly and there were no further cases.

TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Number of cases on Register at 1.1.53.	2	3	6	-
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time	1	-	-	-
Number of cases restored to Register after being removed	-	-	-	-
Number of cases added to Register otherwise than by notification	1	-	-	-
Number of cases removed from Register during year	1	3	1	-
Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31.12.53	3	-	5	-

Reasons for Removal from Register:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Recovered	3	-	3
Removal from District	1	1	2
Died	-	-	-
Not Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Total	4	1	5

National Assistance Act.

No action under Section 47 of the above Act was found necessary.

WATER

The public service during the year has proved to be good in quality and satisfactory levels have been maintained in the pumping well. Sixteen samples were taken for bacteriological analysis and twelve for chemical analysis, typical results are shown below:-

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

No. 1. Well, Aldeburgh Waterworks. 19.5.53. Date Received 20.5.53.
Appearance when received bright and clear. Nature of Deposit Nil.
Colour nil Hazen Units. Odour nil. Reaction Slightly Alkaline
pH 7.6. Taste satisfactory

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Ammoniacal nitrogen	nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.01
Nitrate nitrogen	10
Nitrite nitrogen	0.004
Chlorine as chlorides	69

OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality and free from any sign of pollution. In its clarity, odour and taste it is a very satisfactory water and well suited for use as a public supply.

(Sgd) Eric C. Wood
for Lincolne Sutton and Wood.

WATER BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT.

Water from Shallow well, sample taken from No. 1 Well,
Aldeburgh Waterworks.

Date and hour of collection 23.3.53. 0935hrs.
Date and hour of arrival 23.3.53. 1500hrs.

Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 2 days 37°C. aerobically 20 per ml.
Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 3 days Room Temp. 11
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey
2 days, 37°C. 0 per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli - per 100 ml.
Remarks Bacteriological findings very satisfactory

(Sgd) A.H. Durrant.
M.O.i/c P.H. Laboratory.

Following the tidal flooding on the 31st January in the vicinity of the Catchment Area salinity in the water was found to have increased to a maximum of 266 ppm by the 13th February, but this figure had returned to normal by 31st March. Bacteriological findings immediately after flood conditions showed considerable deterioration but appeared to be well controlled by chlorination. Normal counts were reported by the 26th March.

SEWERAGE

During flood conditions on the 1st February the main sewerage system was surcharged with flood water and the sewerage pumping station was flooded to a depth of 2'3" above floor level. Normal pumping plant being installed in an underground chamber was out of commission until the 10th February. Pumping in the meantime was carried out by a standby pump and fire service appliances which together resulted in the emptying of the sewerage system by the morning of the 3rd February thus preventing further backflow of sewage into the lower parts of the town.

An extension to the Sewerage system by means of a private sewer some 1,500 feet in length to serve a private housing estate was carried out by the Developers.

HOUSING

Now Council houses completed during the year	18
Now private houses completed during the year	12
Number of requisitioned units of accommodation held	18
Number on waiting list for Council houses at the end of year.	80

ACTION UNDER VARIOUS ACTS AND REGULATIONS

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Number of factories employing mechanical powers	11
Number of factories without mechanical powers	4
Visits made during the year	26
Outworkers	Nil

HOUSING ACTS.

Housing inspections	70
Statutory Notices	Nil
Informal Notices	12

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

Premises inspected	52
Treatment carried out	45
Notices served and complied with	1

FOOD PREMISES

Number of food premises by type of business.

Grocers	8
Dairies	2
Public Houses	9
Bakers	2
Sweets other than Grocers	1
Ice Cream	15
Butchers	3
Fried and wet fish	3
Greengrocers	5
Cafes	4

Number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act.

Ice Cream Dealers	15
Sausage Manufacturers	2
Number of inspections of registered premises	39

Condemned food is normally disposed of by burial on refuse tip sites. No special examinations have been carried out of stocks or consignments of food.

Condemnation of food include the following items:-

Tinned fruits and vegetables	11
Tinned Milk	5
Tinned meats and meat preparations	13..
Sugar	660lbs.
Dried Fruit	240lbs.
Ground Almonds	30lbs.
Margarine	56lbs.
Flour	36lbs.
Beef	40lbs.

